

New FAFSA® Mobile Options

Two new ways to complete the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form:

- a mobile-friendly version of the fafsa.gov website
- myStudentAid mobile app.

Redesigned, Mobile-friendly FAFSA® Website

The fafsa.gov website has an updated look with new colors and has been redesigned so that the site pages will fit the screen size and shape of any device, including desktop or laptop computers and mobile devices such as smartphones or tablets. Students and parents can now complete the FAFSA form on a mobile device with the same ease as on a desktop or laptop computer.

The new design of fafsa.gov also offers the following features:

- The "Help and Hints" display box has been replaced by "tool tips" that provide information about each FAFSA question.
- While the number of questions on the FAFSA form remains the same, the questions are displayed in a more user-friendly way, with some now grouped in a different order to ease navigation through the site.

FAFSA® Completion on myStudentAid Mobile App

Students and parents may now download the version of *myStudentAid* mobile app from both the [Apple App Store \(iOS\)](https://apps.apple.com) and [Google Play \(Android\)](https://play.google.com). The *myFAFSA* component on the app—which can be used to complete the FAFSA form—is currently the mobile app's featured function. Note: The FAFSA form will continue to be available at fafsa.gov and in PDF.

This initial release of *myFAFSA* offers the following features:

- ability to begin, complete, and submit a new FAFSA form for the 2018–19 FAFSA processing cycle
- customized experience based on whether the user is a student, parent, or preparer
- secure environment with the same data protections as fafsa.gov

The *myStudentAid* mobile app also provides links to the following services:

- Profile: edit/manage an FSA ID
- myFederalLoans: view loan and aid history
- Contact Us: contact information for FSA's contact centers

We encourage you to try out the mobile app as well: If you're helping a student fill out the FAFSA form, you can select the "I am a Preparer" option, where you'll be asked to enter your FSA ID. (You must have an FSA ID to use the mobile app.) Let us know what you think of the app by leaving a comment at the App Store or Google Play.

Note: Although the *myStudentAid* app is in beta, the FAFSA form in the app is an official application. If a student submits his or her FAFSA form from the mobile app, the form will be sent to the Central Processing System.

Subsequent versions of the mobile app will offer additional functionality. For instance, on Oct. 1, 2018, the app is scheduled to offer the 2019–20 FAFSA form. We will update this announcement with further details as appropriate. Meanwhile, [find additional details about the myStudentAid app at the Information for Financial Aid Professionals site.](#)

Anticipated Impact on Students and Families

- Making the FAFSA form accessible through a mobile device—both through fafsa.gov and the *myStudentAid* mobile app—provides students and their parents with improved options for completing the form.
- The refresh of the fafsa.gov design offers uniformity and standardization of the FAFSA form online, whether it's completed on a mobile device, laptop, or desktop.
- The mobile app customizes the experience based on a user's role, making it easier for students and parents to understand and complete the FAFSA form. Plus, students and parents have the ability to switch between a mobile device and a desktop or laptop while completing the FAFSA form.

Anticipated Impact on Schools, Partners, and Stakeholders

FSA believes these changes will help schools, partners, and stakeholders assist applicants with navigating and completing the FAFSA form more efficiently.

Resources for Reference and Outreach

The resources below will be particularly useful as you prepare to help students with the newly redesigned FAFSA form. You also may wish to [browse our full selection of FAFSA resources](#).

- StudentAid.gov/mobilefafsa — Announcement familiarizing students and parents with the FAFSA changes. Send your students to the StudentAid.gov/mobilefafsa URL, not to this Financial Aid Toolkit site.
- [2018–19 FAFSA Screen Shots](#) (aka *FAFSA on the Web* Preview Presentation) — Presentation that provides screen shots of the 2018–19 fafsa.gov application. Feel free to use the screen shots as you compile your own presentations.
- [FAFSA demo site](#) — Demonstration site with a sample FAFSA form, where counselors can increase their understanding of fafsa.gov and show it to students before they apply.
- [FAFSA Updates](#) — Financial Aid Toolkit page that provides counselors and college access mentors with the latest forms and information associated with the FAFSA process.

August 15, 2018